



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Brie L. Franco, Intergovernmental Relations Officer

DATE: August 29, 2019

SUBJECT: Staff Response to Resolution No. 20190606-100

On June 6, 2019, Council passed Resolution No. 20190606-100 directing staff to explore meaningful and affirmative actions Austin can take to fight against anti-abortion legislation. This memo is to confirm that during the 86th Legislative Session, IGRO staff advocated against anti-abortion legislation.

[Senate Bill 22](#) was passed during the 86th legislative session. Stephanie Hayden, Public Health Director, testified against the companion to S.B. 22: [House Bill 1929](#). S.B. 22 was signed by the Governor and takes effect on September 1st, 2019. The bill prohibits the City from contracting with an abortion facility and their affiliates and waives governmental immunity for violating the prohibition. S.B. 22 prohibits the City from contracting with Planned Parenthood, which provides services such as cancer screenings, STI testing, and HIV prevention. The bill also includes language which does not allow advocacy or lobbying by or on behalf of a governmental entity on behalf of the interests of an abortion provider or affiliate.

Lastly, the Resolution states that the City strongly supports the Women's Health Protection Act which is currently pending in Congress. The City's Federal Legislative Agenda has been amended to include language to reflect this position.

Please contact Brie L. Franco, Intergovernmental Relations Officer, if you have further questions.

Thank you.

CC: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Elaine Hart, Deputy City Manager